

SELECTBOARD MEETING - Final (Approved 7/14/14)
MONKTON TOWN HALL
DATE: Wednesday May 28, 2014

1. CALL TO ORDER:

a. Chair S. Pilcher called the meeting to order at 7:03pm.

2. ATTENDANCE:

a. Select Board (SB) Members Present: Roger Parker, Jr., Ann Layn, John McNerney, Stephen Pilcher.

b. Others in Attendance: Melanie Peyser, Jennifer Baker

3. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Vermont Gas natural resource and archeological survey . UVM will be in Monkton next week doing survey work only on parcels where Vermont Gas has acquired right of entry.

The Planning Commission has invited to the Selectboard to the next meeting to discuss the Complete Streets project and next steps

The Planning Commission has invited the Selectboard to the June 17th meeting to meet with Paul Costello of Vermont Council on Rural Development. This will be an initial meeting to determine if Monkton is eligible to hold VCRD Community Meetings similar to the conversation in Vergennes.

4. REGULAR BUSINESS:

Approve Minutes of previous meeting: The SB reviewed the regular meeting minutes from May 12, 2014. Removing the following information: "for receipt by ANR . R Parker made a motion to approve as amended. A. Layn Seconded. Voted and Approved.

R. Parker questions the monies going to Murphy Sullivan and Kronk regarding the Brisson Stone litigation. A. Layn would like to see where we are at in regards to a status update for April bills. S. Pilcher agreed to get a status update from Liam Murphy and see what could be done to lower the ongoing legal bills. A. Layn would also like to discuss this with the DRB.

5. CHECK WARRANTS REVIEW AND APPROVE OVERWEIGHT PERMITS, ETC.

AP 5-28-14, #40526 \$21,994.84

AP 5-12-14, #40512 \$15,788.75

PR 5-19-14, #40519 \$876.31

6. NEW BUSINESS:

D AND J HOLDING SETTLEMENT: The Listers, Dennis White of D&J Holdings and Bill Benton of Benton appraisers met with Micheal Burnhart, Vermont State Appraiser to resolve the tax grievance of D&J Holdings on a 6 lot parcel. The Selectboard is asked to sign off on the agreement reached between the Lister and D&J Holdings. S. Pilcher asked if the SB felt they should accept the settlement of \$330,000 which would be the assessed value for year 2014, 2015, 2016 unless there are material changes, for example a lot sale. SB has the option of accepting or rejecting this offer. Town wide reappraisal will be happening in 2015. **R. Parker made a motion to approve**

settlement. A layn seconded. A. Layn wanted to know about 2016 dependent on town wide appraisal. There was a wide ranging discussion regarding possible ways to value subdivided land. **Vote 2-1-1.**

WILDLIFE CROSSING GRANT EXTENSION : Funds have been secured for the 2 wildlife crossing under the Monkton/Vergennes Road but the grant from the State is set to expire 6/1/2014. The extension has an expiration date of 12/31/2015. R Parker recused himself from this discussion. A. Layn motion to extend the grant term. Voted and **Approved 3-0-1.**

7. OLD BUSINESS:

MISSION STATEMENT: Selectboard members are asked to generate 5 words to describe the proper working of the Selectboard. Three members have already submitted entries.

BORO CEMETERY STATUS: Damage has been repaired in time for Memorial day. A Layn agreed to submit the application for a Grant from Vermont Old Cemetery Association which will cover part of the cost. A Layn suggested the remainder should be obtained via restitution from the persons that vandalized the cemetery.

VELCO WELL CONTAMINATION UPDATE : Ash Desmond of Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) gave the Town a copy of the VELCO Work Plan for testing at the pole nearest the McGuinness spring. Based on discussions at the last meeting. S. Pilcher responded indicating that other poles should be tested and the VELCO consultant had a conflict of interest. The Selectboard was copied on both pieces of correspondence. A draft motion to the PSB dealing with the issue and its affect on the Vermont Gas construction was sent to Bill Ellis for review. David Sharpe was consulted for advice. S. Pilcher is planning on talking to talk to ANR as this was not yet done, as he wanted thoughts opinions from select board prior to this conversation. J. McNerney feels this is more of DEC and ANR problem and spot checks should be done. S. Pilcher would like to see more poles tested. Melanie Peyser mentioned a letter 2009 letter was sent out regarding a similar situation regarding Velco poles and contamination of water and soils. Jennifer Baker noted a conversation with Desmond's boss that their department did not have jurisdiction, and that the department that did needed to be determined. S. Pilcher will reach out to some contacts to try and get more definitive answers. The SB reviewed the draft PSB motion and the review by Bill Ellis. Melanie Peyser offered to make the changes recommended by Bill Ellis and pass the modified motion back to the SB. The SB agreed on the current plan of action.

MULTI-LOT PARCELS: S Pilcher talked with the Listers and, by statute, the preliminary Grand List is due by June 4th. Also, he spoke with two attorneys, Jim Carroll, the Town Attorney and Sarah Jarvis, from VLCT. Jim Carroll noted that mass appraisals, as done by the Town of Monkton, are quite common although it is unusual for a town to do its own town-wide appraisals and is better to have professional appraisers. A. Layn had questions about who decides what way a town wide appraisal is done. S. Pilcher shared a document detailing that there are contract guidelines for town wide appraisals. A. Layn wanted to know if a town was ever petitioned to appraise one certain way. S. Pilcher reviews the email from Sarah Jarvis.

JUNIPER LANE UPDATE: R. Parker was not able to get with Mr. Revell to review. This is still outstanding regarding the issues with Juniper Lane.

POSTING OF PUBLIC AREAS: How should public areas be posted? A. Layn presented her suggestion for posting the public areas for the board to review. The SB discussed dusk to dawn vs. Actual times being posted. Revisions will be made and then presented to the board for further review.

8. OTHER BUSINESS DETERMINE

Next meeting to be held June 9, 2014 at 7:00pm

Discussed Sam Burns Resignation from Planning Commission. Advertisement to be put in Addison Independent.

Grant for Park and Ride: Final signatures were needed for this grant. Grant has previously been approved in a prior meeting. This grant would allow for \$56,400 to be spent to build a Park and Ride on the land owned by the Town adjacent to the Friends Methodist Church on Monkton Ridge. No monies are are required from the Town to complete this project.

9. ADJOURNMENT

a. J. McNerny moved to Adjourn at 9:16. A. Layn Seconded, vote passed 4-0-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Miranda Boe
Recording Secretary

Edited Stephen Pilcher 6/3/2014